

# SERMON ON THE MOUNT

## Week 4

### Read Matthew 5:17-26

**Note:** As we enter a new section of the Sermon, Jesus gives a template for re-casting the practice of several Old Testament teachings. He repeats this pattern several times, starting with the Law against murder. He is not abolishing the Laws, but “fulfilling” (v.17) them, making them what they were truly meant to be. People, specifically the teachers of the Law, have “loosened” (v.19) or relaxed the Law. But Jesus has called us to “practice” it, living in it day-by-day (v.19). The original teaching that has been loosened comes first, followed by Jesus’ restatement, “fulfilling” it. Then, the examples show us how to “practice” it in our day-to-day life.

**Retell:** Summarize in your own words what Jesus is saying about the law prohibiting murder.

**Discuss:** How had the Jews, specifically the Pharisees, “loosened” the Law against murder?

How was Jesus “fulfilling” the Law?

What is Jesus calling us to “practice” to be consistent with His kingdom?

**Application:** Take a quiet moment to pray and listen. What practical step do you need to take to resolve a dispute or let go of anger? Write it down and share it with the group.

I WILL:

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